

No list of the entire membership of the Club, including honorary members, has been printed since May, 1889; but an examination of the minutes has not revealed the election of any new honorary member since the death of Regel in April, 1892. De Candolle died in April, 1893; Baillon in July, 1895; Sachs in May, 1897; it would appear, therefore, that unless some election has been overlooked, Sir Joseph Hooker was the only honorary member of the Torrey Botanical Club from May, 1897, until his recent death. A much more thorough search of the Club's minutes, however, would be desirable before proceeding to the election of new honorary members upon the supposition that there are now none.

J. H. BARNHART.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

JANUARY 31, 1912

The meeting of January 31, 1912, was held in the Museum Building of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M., Vice-President Barnhart presiding. Twenty-five persons were present.

The minutes of the meetings of November 29, 1911, and January 9, 1912, were read and approved.

Dr. Marshall A. Howe, chairman of the auditing committee reported that the committee had examined the books of the treasurer and found them to be correct. The following report of the budget committee was then presented and approved.

Estimated Income

Members' dues.....	\$1,035.00
Sustaining members' dues.....	225.00
Subscriptions, <i>Bulletin</i>	700.00
Subscriptions, TORREYA.....	115.00
Subscriptions, <i>Memoirs</i>	150.00
Subscriptions, <i>Index cards</i>	200.00
Advertisements.....	100.00
Sundry items.....	25.00
Total.....	<u>\$2,550.00</u>

Estimated Expenses

<i>Bulletin</i>	\$1,200.00
TORREYA.....	520.00
<i>Memoirs</i>	150.00
<i>Index cards</i>	150.00
Salary, Secretary and Treasurer.....	300.00
Reprinting old <i>Bulletins</i>	100.00
Sundry items.....	75.00
Total.....	\$2,495.00
Estimated balance.....	55.00
	<u>\$2,550.00</u>

Dr. N. L. Britton then read a communication from President Burgess relating to field meetings. By a vote of the Club Mr. Sereno Stetson was appointed chairman of the field committee with power to choose his associates.

The resignations of Dr. John H. Barnhart and Professor Robert A. Harper, associate editors, were presented and accepted. By vote of the Club, the board of editors was given power to fill the vacancies.

The resignation of William Rives was read and accepted.

The announced scientific program consisted of the reading of papers on Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker his Life and Works, by Dr. N. L. Britton and Dr. J. H. Barnhart. Dr. Britton's paper related chiefly to the life of this distinguished botanist, and his publications relating to botany were discussed by Dr. Barnhart. As Sir Joseph Hooker was an honorary member of the Torrey Club, Dr. Barnhart took this occasion to bring before the Club the constitutional provisions relating to honorary membership and read the list of all persons who have been elected to honorary membership.*

Mr. Fred J. Seaver spoke briefly on the viability of the spores in *Pyronema*. While *Pyronema* has been made the subject of numerous research papers and is figured and treated in most of the recent text-books of general botany it still remains an unknown plant to most botanists, except to the few who have done critical work with it. There is no reason for it being so for the fungus is fairly common and is easily grown as has already been

* See page 90.

shown in previously published papers. In a recent experiment the speaker was able to show that the spores of this fungus which had been kept nearly three years in the herbarium germinated readily in hanging-drop culture. This last point should be of general interest to teachers of botany since it means that the plant can be grown and studied from living material and the old plants then placed in an envelope and kept until the next year when they can be planted and grown again. No complicated technique is necessary for the growing of *Pyronema*. A pot of garden soil should be heated. Heating can be carried on in an autoclav or sterilizing oven. If these are not to be had bake in an ordinary oven. Saturate the soil with tap water after heating and plant the spores. Growth of mycelium should be abundant in two or three days, sex organs should appear in about a week and mature ascocarps a few days later. A more detailed account of this subject will appear in the BULLETIN of the Club.

Dr. Marshall A. Howe spoke briefly on "Some Marine Algae from the Stomach of a Peruvian Green Turtle" and exhibited specimens from the source indicated, collected in Peru by Dr. Robert E. Coker. The fragments were in a good state of preservation and two of the species concerned are readily determinable, the most abundant being *Rhodyminia flabellifolia*, a common Peruvian and Chilean species and a close relative of the edible "dulse." The alga coming next in point of abundance is *Caulerpa flagelliformis ligulata*, a species occurring elsewhere in Dr. Coker's Peruvian collections but not before reported from the shores of the American continent. Fragments of a species of *Gelidium* not so certainly determinable also occur.

Dr. W. A. Murrill gave a short account of the progress of his studies on the Agaricaceae of tropical North America and also read some mycological notes relating to the Washington meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary

FEBRUARY 13, 1912

The meeting of February 13, 1912, was held at the American Museum of Natural History at 8:15 P.M. Twenty-three persons were present.

The announced scientific programme consisted of a lecture on "Some Botanical Features of a Desert Mountain Range," by Dr. Forrest Shreve. The lecture was illustrated with lantern slides.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary

NEWS ITEMS

We learn from *Science* that a comprehensive project for research on the Cactaceae has been organized by the department of botanical research of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Dr. J. N. Rose, of the U. S. National Museum, has been appointed research associate. He has been granted a furlough from the museum, which also furnishes working quarters and facilities for handling the living collections. Dr. N. L. Britton, who has made extensive studies of the group, has also been appointed research associate, without salary. The New York Botanical Garden also contributes its extensive collections, and some of its explorational effort to the project. Dr. D. S. Johnson, of Johns Hopkins University, and Professor J. G. Brown, of the University of Arizona, will continue their studies on the Cactaceae. Other contributions will be made by the members of the staff and co-operators of the Desert Laboratory.

At the one hundredth anniversary of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia held March 18-21, Dr. C. Stuart Gager represented the Torrey Botanical Club and also the University of Missouri.

From the *Sun* we learn that Michael H. Lawlor, an expert in the propagation and care of trees of foreign growth and known to horticulturists in all parts of the United States, has died, aged 63 years. He was born in Ireland and came to this country